

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Deoxycytidine kinase (DCK)	Mouse and <i>in vitro</i> studies identified DCK inhibitors that could help treat cancer. DCK is associated with cancer cell growth and chemotherapy resistance. High throughput screening, SAR studies and cell-based assays identified small molecules that inhibit DCK with nanomolar IC ₅₀ values. In a mouse xenograft model of human leukemia, the lead inhibitor decreased DCK activity in tumors compared with vehicle. Next steps include identifying a lead clinical candidate and carrying out IND-enabling studies. SciBX 6(36); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.990 Published online Sept. 19, 2013	Patent application filed; licensing details available from the University of California, Los Angeles Office of Intellectual Property	Murphy, J.M. <i>et al. J. Med. Chem.</i> ; published online Aug. 15, 2013; doi:10.1021/jm400457y Contact: Caius G. Radu, University of California, Los Angeles, Calif. e-mail: cradu@mednet.ucla.edu Contact: Arnon Lavie, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, Ill. e-mail: lavie@uic.edu